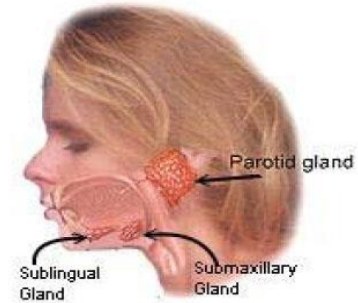


How to Collect a Buccal Swab for Viral Testing

The following are step by step instructions on how to obtain a buccal swab for viral testing properly. **Please note that sterile polyester or rayon swabs with plastic or metal handles should be used:** (Cotton or calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden handles have been shown to inactivate virus and inhibit PCR invalidating the laboratory test results.)

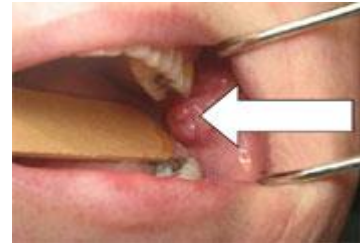
Step 1:

Massage the parotid gland area for 30 seconds prior to the collection of the buccal secretions. This is the area between the cheek and teeth below the ear. The parotid duct drains into this space near the upper and rear molars.



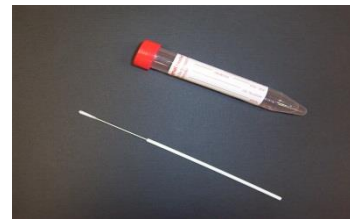
Step2:

Swab the buccal cavity near the upper rear molars between the cheek and the teeth. Place swab between rear molars and cheek and leave in place 10 to 15 seconds.



Step 3:

Store in 2mL viral transport media (Remen M4 RT or equivalent) at 4°C, if shipping within 24 hours – ship on cold packs. If shipping is delayed, freeze at -70°C – ship frozen.



Step 4:

Contact the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (DIDE) at 1-800-423-1271 ext. 1 for information on where to submit the specimen for testing or to coordinate testing through the Office of Laboratory Services (OLS).

For more information on buccal swab collection please visit the Mumps page on the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mumps/lab/specimen-collect.html>